

will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to his family, his friends, and to all Marines. He will be greatly missed.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF PENNSYLVANIA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR CATHERINE BAKER KNOLL

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, on November 12, 2008, Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll succumbed to a four month long battle with neuroendocrine cancer.

I've known Catherine for 30 years. She was a remarkable woman who never stopped fighting to better our Commonwealth and to improve the lives of Pennsylvanians. She was one of the most hard-working and determined individuals to ever serve in state government, and her passion and dedication to both the Democratic Party and to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania was unparalleled.

Catherine was a transformational figure—one of the first women to run for statewide office, she served as Pennsylvania State Treasurer (1989–1997) and later became the first woman to serve as Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor (2003–2008). She never stopped fighting for what she believed in, and this determination placed her at the forefront of so many important issues.

Catherine's kindness and friendship touched the lives of many. Over the past few months, people from all across Pennsylvania asked me how she was doing, and how she was coping with the disease. I reminded them that Catherine Baker Knoll was made of "steel" and that she was fighting this disease with the same strength and fortitude she fought every other challenge in life.

Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the career and life of someone who devoted both to serving the interests of her fellow Pennsylvanians. I rise to thank and commend her four children, Charles, Mina, Albert, and Kim Eric, for always being by her side and giving her constant strength.

Madam Speaker, all of us will miss the friendship and great leadership of Pennsylvania Lieutenant Governor Catherine Baker Knoll.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEOPLES BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to a special day in the life of the congregation of the Peoples Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama.

On November 24th, Peoples Baptist Church will celebrate its 110th anniversary. The church was first organized in 1898 under Rev. Pradd who served as the pastor until 1925.

The church moved to several locations over the years including the campus of Alabama State University.

In September of 2008, the church moved to its new location on Dorchester Drive in Montgomery. The new building was built under the leadership of the church's fifth pastor, Paul L. Boswell, who served the church for 32 years. The congregation works to carry the "torch of building up God's kingdom one brick at a time."

Today the church celebrates their 110th Anniversary and is blessed to now be under the leadership of their new and sixth pastor, Victor Lewis, Sr.

I would like to congratulate Peoples Baptist Church on reaching this important milestone.

HONORING MATTHEW CHARLES GARCIA

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Charles Garcia of Kansas City, Missouri. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1357, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Charles Garcia for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SUPERVISOR DENNIS HANSBERGER FOR HIS DECADES OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend and longtime leader in my community, San Bernardino County Supervisor Dennis Hansberger, who is leaving office this year after more than 20 years in public service.

While he was a young businessman in 1968, Dennis Hansberger was selected as a field representative and executive assistant by then-County Supervisor Donald Beckford. When his boss decided not to run for re-election, Mr. Hansberger mounted a successful campaign and won election to the county board in 1972.

Dennis Hansberger quickly revealed his strong leadership capabilities, and was chosen as chairman of the board by his fellow supervisors in 1974—becoming the youngest chairman in the state and the youngest in San

Bernardino County history. When the legislature created the South Coast Air Quality Management District, Supervisor Hansberger became a founding board member of that ground-breaking agency.

After 2 successful terms, Mr. Hansberger decided to take a hiatus from elected office and went into private business as a well-respected consultant on land management and mining issues. He remained extremely active in public service, however, serving for 3 years as Chairman on the Redlands Community Hospital's Board, as well as on the Board of Counselors of the California State University in California, the Foundation Board of the San Bernardino County Museum, the Inland Empire Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and the Capital Projects Committee of the Girl Scouts of America.

Mr. Hansberger was again elected to the Board of Supervisors in 1996, and has been at the forefront of many of the major issues faced by the county in the past 12 years. Faced with the closure of Norton Air Force Base, Supervisor Hansberger has been a leader in seeking ways to replace the 12,000 jobs lost. He served as chairman of the Inland Valley Development Authority, a joint effort of the county and cities surrounding the base. By working as a team, the communities have brought about a complete makeover of the former base into a new airport, supporting major businesses that have brought thousands of new jobs to the area.

Five years ago, San Bernardino County was confronted with an even more dire problem—millions of trees were dying around mountain communities and creating a grave fire danger for tens of thousands of residents. As the supervisor representing the area, Dennis Hansberger pushed county officials to create the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce and work with residents on an evacuation plan. The plan's effectiveness was demonstrated when nearly 50,000 residents were evacuated with no serious injury during terrible wildfires the following year. Mr. Hansberger has since led the county in cutting down more than a million trees and significantly reducing the fire danger.

Madam Speaker, as you can see, Dennis Hansberger has been a leader in improving the economy and safety for San Bernardino County residents. Please join me in thanking him for his decades of public service, and wishing the best to him and his wife Karen in all of their future endeavors.

HONORING THE HONORABLE WILLIAM R. DYSON FOR HIS OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2008

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to join the New Haven Democratic Town Committee and all of those gathered this evening in paying tribute to one of New Haven's most outstanding public servants and my good friend, State Representative William R. Dyson. After 32 years of dedicated service, Bill has decided to step down as State Representative from Connecticut's 94th Assembly District. This evening, friends, family, community leaders, and colleagues extend